STATE OF ALABAMA
REQUEST FOR PRPOSAL
BENCHMARKING SERVICES

PROPOSAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

JUNE 20, 2003

The following questions and answers are related to the Request for Proposal for Benchmarking Services:

1. The number of data centers that the State wishes to benchmark. ***One***
2. If more than one, does the State desire one report per location or one combined report? ***One report for the single data center.***
3. For each data center, we need to know the general hardware/operating systems, for example, OS/390 mainframe, Unix servers, Intel servers. ***IBM OS/390 V2.10***
4. If the State has a mainframe, we need to know installed MIPS and number of LPARs. ***The State's IBM OS/390 has 300 MIPS with one Operational LPAR and one Test LPAR.***
5. Data Center Operations: Can you help us identify the technology platforms with the Data Center that will be included? Will the Mainframe OS 390 be included? Unix Platforms? NT Platforms? AS400? Any others? ***The only technology platform to be evaluated is the IBM OS/390 mainframe.***
6. Within the Data Center does the State what to look at the Storage Cost and Storage Management Requirements of the State separate than a line item of cost as a part of the Operation Center? ***The State has no preference.***
7. Networking Operations: Can you help us identify what is going to be included within this operation? ***Network Control Center (NCC), Network Design, and Router Group.***
8. Does the State want to include Voice Network (cost per minute types of stuff)?, Voice Technologies (cost per extension types of stuff)?, and Data Network operations? ***The State is interested at this time in just the data network, no voice.***
9. Comparisons: Does the State want only one comparison to PEERS? or Would the State like external comparisons to PEERS, INDUSTRY (other State Agencies or State Data Centers), OUTSOURCERS, etc? ***The State would prefer comparisons to external PEERS, other state agencies/data centers and OUSOURCERS.***